

MAYOR'S UPDATE

CITY OF GALLATIN—AUGUST, 2012

MAYOR GRAVES TO PRESENT STATE OF THE CITY ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012

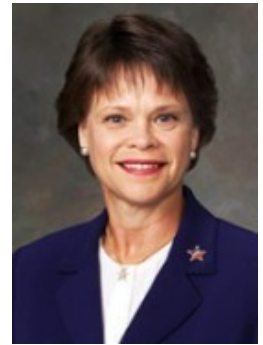
Since becoming Mayor in 2007, I have presented a *State of the City* report every September at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon. This year marks my sixth *State of the City*. While six years may not seem like a long time when you look back over the life of the City, Gallatin has made major strides in six years.

Today, we can get on SR 386 at Long Hollow Pike and make our way to downtown Nashville via interstate. It seems like we've been able to do that forever, but SR 386 between Hendersonville and Gallatin did not open until after I became Mayor. This new corridor helped propel our population past the 30,000 mark in 2010.

A new SR 109 North from Gallatin to Portland opened and the new SR 109 Gateway Bridge is under construction. These two pieces are major links in creating a four or five lane highway from I-40 in Wilson County to I-65 in Portland. This will become our I-840 and create even more business and residential opportunities for Gallatin.

However, progress is not all about roads. In the last six years, Gallatin's property tax rate went down from \$1.12 to \$0.99 per \$100 of assessed value—and that happened during one of the worst recessions to hit this country. The City has worked very hard to secure more than \$80 million in grants that allow us to complete major projects with minimal city tax dollars. We've expanded the limits of our City, added a new fire hall with ambulance service, revitalized our historic downtown, added amenities to our parks system, created more online services to save you a trip to City Hall, and much more.

I invite you to attend this year's State of the City presentation on September 10. Come see what we've done in Gallatin over the last year. It makes me proud—and you will be too, to live in a place called Gallatin. To make a reservation, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 452-4000. I hope to see you there!



Mayor Jo Ann Graves

IT'S SUMMER—THAT MEANS CONSTRUCTION



The new State Route 109 Gateway Bridge continues to take shape. Work is being done from the bottom of the river up. It is scheduled for completion in early 2014.

If you spend any time driving around Gallatin, you most likely have encountered construction.

The City is improving N. Water between Broadway and Dobbins Pike, which is badly needed.

The City is near completion of a pavilion in Triple Creek Park that can handle large outdoor events.

The City and the State are partnering on Red River Road to add a center turn lane between Long Hollow Pike and Dorothy Jordan Avenue.

Also, Gallatin Public Utilities is upgrading lines in the Maple Street area.

DON'T MISS IT!



Don't miss them!
There are three more free concerts on the square to catch this summer.

August 16:

Guilty Pleasures

September 20:

Daryle Singletary

October 4:

The Parks

All concerts begin at 6:30pm, are free, and open to the public. Bring a lawn chair, your family and friends, dine on the square & enjoy the music!

CHARGE IT!



The City of Gallatin now offers electric car charging stations at City Hall and the Civic Center. The stations were installed at no cost to the City and are free to citizens.

CITY UNVEILS NEW WEBSITE

The City of Gallatin recently unveiled its new website to provide more online information and to facilitate use by citizens and customers.

"Technology changes so rapidly," Mayor Graves explained. "We want to make it as easy as possible for people to find information, locate services, or do business online. Our new website includes new categories that address what most people want to know with just a click or two."



The website now features *About Us*, *Doing Business*, *I Want To* pages and more.

"Many of the people who visit Gallatin's website are looking at our city as a place to move or do business," Graves said. "Others already live here but may need a new garbage can, or a permit or simply want to browse."

The website also allows people to sign up for email updates from the City, fill out a job application online, pay certain bills, get permits and many other options.

"We'd love to hear from the public if they have suggestions about our new website," Graves added. "Please email me at joann.graves@gallatin-tn.gov."

WALK ACROSS SUMNER IN SEPTEMBER

The second annual *Walk Across Sumner* kicks off Saturday, September 8 at Volunteer State Community College.

The event is organized by the Sumner County Health Committee and is designed to encourage people to walk 34.5 miles in the month of September—the distance it takes to cross the county.

The kick-off event from 8:30am to 11am features entertainment, health screenings, fitness activities, the Predators mascot and a one-mile walk lead by Channel 4 News anchor Holly Thompson.

Young and old alike are encouraged to walk at least 34.5 miles over the course of a month—whether around

the block, on a treadmill, at the greenway, or in the gym.

Walk Across Sumner concludes with closing ceremonies on Saturday, October 6, 8:20am to 10am, at the Gallatin Civic Center.

The closing ceremonies will also feature a one-mile walk with Holly Thompson and prizes for children and adults.

More than 1,000 people participated in last year's *Walk Across Sumner* as well as several Sumner County schools.

For more information about the event, contact Sumner County Health Committee Chair Amy Summers @ 451-5890—or visit SumnerTN.org and look under: Links



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